

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The following letter was sent to President Bush today by the entire Massachusetts delegation.

Last week, Massachusetts lawmakers urged Governor Romney to declare a state of emergency in Massachusetts.

The text of the letter is below.

October 19, 2005

President George W. Bush  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to express our strong support for the federal disaster declaration request made by the Governor of Massachusetts.

Sustained, heavy rains accompanied by strong winds have battered our state for more than a week. Flooding has caused significant damage to property and infrastructure.

Time is of the essence for a federal disaster declaration. The National Weather Service forecasts that significant rainfall is still expected.

It is vital that we provide every assurance to those families which have lost their homes during the flooding. We are doing everything we can to help them.

Currently, a range of state and local resources are being brought to bear on this disaster. However, judges are still being displaced.

While it will undoubtedly take time to fully recover from the flooding, families which have lost a home are still in need of assistance.

With respect and appreciation, and we thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,  
Senator Edward M. Kennedy  
Senator John F. Kerry  
Representative Edward Markey  
Representative Barney Frank  
Representative Richard Neal  
Representative John Olver  
Representative Martin Meehan  
Representative William Delahunt  
Representative James McGovern  
Representative John Tierney  
Representative Michael Capuano  
Representative Stephen Lynch

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